

final contestant on the most popular show on television. Elliott will be returning home to Richmond, having inspired and entertained millions with his extraordinary singing voice and charisma. I join Elliott's community, family and friends in proud recognition of his fantastic achievement and undoubtedly bright future.

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#### URGING VIDEO GAME MAKERS TO ACT RESPONSIBLY IN WAKE OF RECENT POLICE SHOOTINGS

(Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, the suburbs of Washington were shaken last week by the senseless murder of two police officers in Fairfax, Virginia. This shooting occurred just days after the 25th annual Police Officers Memorial Service honoring the 155 police officers who, like Shawn Silvera from Lino Lakes, Minnesota, died in the line of duty last year.

These deaths come at a time when violence against police officers is being glorified by video games like 25 to Life which gives players points for shooting police officers.

This is unacceptable, it is outrageous, it must be stopped.

I urge the makers of this game to think carefully about the message they are sending to the families of fallen officers and the impact it has on impressionable children. If companies like those that produce 25 to Life continue to market this filth to our children, I say to my colleagues, we have a duty to act.

#### ONGOING HOUSING CRISIS ON THE GULF COAST

(Mr. JEFFERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, after almost 9 months, I suppose it doesn't surprise anyone to hear that FEMA is failing the citizens of the gulf coast. In the wake of the storms, FEMA expressly advised the survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita that they could expect 1 year of assistance. Moreover, section 408 of the Stafford Act provides for 18 months of assistance to victims of natural disasters.

Yet just 9 months after these devastating storms, FEMA is working feverishly, not to house the victims of the hurricanes but to terminate their housing assistance, to kick them out into the street without any assurance that the survivors will be able to find housing for themselves or their families.

Why? Because FEMA says it's time to move on. May 31 is the deadline. After that, you're on your own.

There is a reason the Stafford Act provides for more than \$20,000 in aid per household and for up to 18 months

of assistance. The Stafford Act, unlike FEMA, recognizes that every disaster is different and that each disaster cannot be treated the same.

Over the next few months, our State's housing plan, The Road Home, will be up and running; SBA loan funds will begin to flow into homeowners' hands; insurance claims will be resolved and paid; and then the people of New Orleans will begin rebuilding in earnest.

The President has the authority to issue waivers, to make adjustments to accommodate the survivors. FEMA also can behave more reasonably, more humanely. Until FEMA has a workable plan for transitional housing for these American survivors, it must not evict them. To do so is unconscionable.

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to talk about a group of exceptional students in my district. After coming to Congress last year, I put together several advisory councils made up of constituents. These panels perform research, investigations and advise me on the needs and concerns of my district, our State and our Nation across a variety of different areas.

Most recently, my Youth Advisory Council presented their report. Made up of 46 students representing 25 local high schools, the council met monthly to discuss and debate three very pertinent topics of their own choosing: Social Security, tax reform, and illegal immigration. During that time they also compiled and reviewed data from surveys administered to fellow students.

Much to my delight, the most consistent conclusion in all three working groups was that many of our young Americans are thirsty for more information on these issues. They want to be a part of the national dialogue.

I am excited to have had the opportunity to hear their voices. The information and conclusions they presented to me were extremely thorough and valuable. I thank them for their time and effort. I will work with colleagues here to implement many of their recommendations.

#### HOUSE REPUBLICANS CHOOSE TO PENALIZE CASH-STRAPPED SENIORS

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, say it isn't so. House Republicans are ready to penalize millions of American seniors who did not sign up for a prescription drug plan by that arbitrary May 15 deadline. Congress should have extended that deadline to give seniors more time to pick the right plan for

both their health and their pocket-book.

House Republicans expected seniors to choose a plan by May 15 even though they knew seniors were receiving incomplete and incorrect information from the Bush administration. An investigation by GAO concluded that the CMS was giving out wrong information to seniors 60 percent of the time.

You would think that Washington Republicans would not start penalizing seniors with the Bush prescription drug tax until the administration began giving out accurate information. But no, they chose instead to force seniors into a plan by midnight on May 15 or face the Bush prescription drug tax that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

House Republicans and the President who the Congressional Black Caucus called on had a chance to help seniors and they didn't. Congress should have extended the deadline to give seniors more time. They still can. I call on them to do so.

Bring the Congressional Black Caucus bill to the floor and pass it.

#### CRITICAL CONDITION: THE STATE OF THE UNION'S HEALTH CARE, 2006

(Mr. MURPHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, a couple weeks ago, I provided for Members of Congress this document: "Critical Condition: The State of the Union's Health Care, 2006," put out by my office. In that we outlined many programs that would help reduce costs of health care in America.

Let me expand on one of them about Community Health Centers, which are nonprofit centers to provide primary and preventative care for folks who are low income or who are uninsured and underinsured. However, a recent report by the Journal of the American Medical Association said that although these clinics are of tremendous value, there is a shortage of medical personnel at them. A study published by Dr. Roger Rosenblatt of the University of Washington says that there is a 13 percent shortage of family physicians, a 20 percent shortage of obstetricians, and a 22.5 percent shortage of psychiatrists for these positions.

Oddly enough, if a physician is employed by a Community Health Center, they are covered by the Federal liability, but if someone wants to volunteer at a clinic, they are not.

It is important that we provide mechanisms to allow physicians and other medical personnel to volunteer at these clinics. America needs that. The uninsured and underinsured need that, and, quite frankly, it would save a tremendous amount of money.

People can receive further information on my Web site, [murphy.house.gov](http://murphy.house.gov).